

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/686,078

Applicant(s)

NAKAJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Madeleine AV Nguyen

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on August 03, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/12/00 ; 10/25/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Madeleine AV Nguyen
MADELEINE NGUYEN
PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to amendment file on August 03, 2004.

Applicant amends claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, and adds new claim 13.

Response to Applicant's Remarks

Applicant's arguments see page 17-22, filed on August 03, 2004, with respect to claims 1-12 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 1-12 have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

1. Claims 1-13 are allowable.
2. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance: Claims 1-13 are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior art which teaches an image converting apparatus and method for converting document data having a plurality of types of drawing object into image data comprising means for or steps of first and second conversions for converting the document data into first image data and the first image data into second image data wherein the second conversion means or steps comprises means for or steps of subdividing the first image data into a plurality of areas, converting first image data

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within one or more of the plurality of areas into corresponding second image data while referring to one or more of the tables that respectively correspond to a type of drawing object contained in the one or more of the areas, converting individual pixel data corresponding to one or more pixels within one or more of the plurality of areas into corresponding second image data, while referring to one or more of the tables that respectively correspond to a type of drawing object indicated by the individual pixel data, and applying the pixel conversion means or step to areas wherein at least two of the plurality tables correspond to respective types of drawing objects contained therein, and for applying the area unit conversion means or step to areas wherein one of the table corresponds to a type of drawing object contained therein or to areas containing no drawing object.

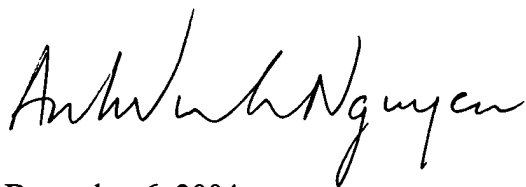
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Madeleine AV Nguyen whose telephone number is 703 305-4860. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A Williams can be reached on 703 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Madeleine AV Nguyen".

Madeleine AV Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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December 6, 2004